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The Bible and Daily Living

A close look at a lasting covenant

BY WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
A LASTING COVENANT
Lesson for September 7, 1980
Scripture Reference: Genesis 9:1-17
Focal Passage: Genesis 9:8-17

For the next thirteen weeks we will look closely at the concept of the covenant between God and his people. We will trace the early beginnings of God's covenant from Abraham to the ultimate covenant in Jesus Christ.

It is important to understand the difference between covenant and contract. Contracts are often easily broken or renegotiated. A covenant, however, has a more permanent binding. For example, those marriages founded upon contractual agreements may not always pass the endurance test, whereas those relationships based upon mutual covenants have more chances of weathering the storms of life.

The earliest biblical covenant is recorded in the Old Testament story of Noah and the flood. Following the flood God issued his covenant that never again would he discipline his people with destructive waters.

GOD AND NEW BEGINNINGS (Gen. 9:1-7)

The covenant God made with Noah was applicable to all generations of people. This new covenant meant the new beginnings of a new relationship between God and his people. The earlier expulsion from the Garden of Eden revealed the need for a renewed covenant.

As a result of the expulsion from Eden meant that humanity would reamin in a state of alienation until they entered into a new relationship with God. Humanity was in dire need for restoration and renewal. Something would have to be done in order for the people to regain "paradise lost."

Involved in this new covenant and restoration was a new ethic and code of behavior towards people and animals. In others words, God's people were to regard as sacred the life of all people and creatures. This is a "code of life" we must constantly internalize into our own behavior towards other persons and towards God's creation. Our history, both sacred and secular, reveals that we have often regarded human flesh as cheap--cheap enough to hang the Christ upon a makeshift gallows.

GOD'S GIFT OF PROMISE (Gen. 9:8-11)

A brush with destruction or death is a very sobering event. Imagine what Noah and his family must have felt when God spared them from drowning. Following the flood waters, God initiated a relationship promise that such rains would never again cover the earth. To make firm his promise, the Lord set a rainbow in the sky and said, "I will look upon it that I may remember..."

Thus, the Lord established limits upon himself and his future actions. His rainbow became a symbol that he would never again destroy the earth with floods. So the people felt free to rebuild and restructure their lives in light of God's promise.

Just think what that kind of promise means! It implies we live in the presence of a dependable God in the midst of a not so dependable world. We live in faith that we may persue life in its fullest and shape our future with the security that the destructive forces are monitored by divine control. This doesn't mean that God abdicates his right to further judgment, for God cannot remain God to us if he does not retain his freedom to judge those who choose not to walk in his ways.

THE SYMBOL OF HOPE AND PROMISE (Gen. 9:12-17)

When two people marry they give to one another a ring to symbolize their covenant union. When warring countries come together for peace talks a signed document becomes a symbol of their agreements. When God made his covenant with Noah he set a rainbow in the sky to symbolize his promise never to send floods to destroy the earth.

There are numerous symbols in life that point out for us certain dangers and assurances. The stop sign signals us to watch for approaching traffic. A notice on the package of cigarette warns us that smoking may be hazardous to our health. Our physician cautions us about our eating habits in order that we may perhaps lengthen our stay on earth!

So, too, in his love and concern for his people our heavenly Father gives us signs and promises.

The Cross is also a sign to us of God's love for his people, a love that willfully sacrificed that we might have life both abundant and eternal.

Dr. Trimyer is pastor of Elon Baptist Church in Pamplin City, Va.

The Pastor Speaks

Dimensions of knowledge

By REV. C. H. DAVIS
New Hope Baptist Church
Appomattox

The Apostle Paul wrote a letter to the Ephesian Christians in which he spoke of his great desire for them "to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge..." (Eph. 3:19) In verse 18 of chapter 3, Paul said he wanted them to be able to 'understand the breadth, length, depth, and height of Christs love. It is very helpful to me when I use these four descriptive words by the Apostle Paul and apply them to John 3:16.

First, **Breadth**-"For God so loved the world" (No one is left out!)

Second, **Length**-"that He gave His only begotten Son" (The distance or measure that God would go to reveal His love to man, even to the cross!)

Third, **Depth**-"that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish" (Man can sink to the lowest kind of life possible on this earth, but Christ went to His death on the cross to save man from eternal death!)

Fourth, **Height**-"But have everlasting life" (God will raise the Christian up to the highest Heaven to live with him forever and ever!)

The greatest gift anyone can ever receive is the grace gift of God's love, His only begotten Son, into ones life as Lord and Savior. Accept Him into your life right now if you have not done so already. Your life will become what God wants it to become!

Thanks expressed to all in M.D. drive

Editor—

To all the wonderful people in Appomattox and in this area who gave so much to our telethon either by donating money or time by answering phones, etc., to make our first Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Telethon a success, a great big thank you!

Words can't express the feeling we had late Monday afternoon Labor Day when we were going way over our goal for Appomattox.

We at times may have seemed a little disorganized and truthfully we were. But you must remember that this was our first ever, and we promise that next year will be bigger and better.

Special thanks to Judy and Vinny Volturo who acted as back-up co-ordinators, American Federal Savings and Loan, Jamerson Brothers Trucking Co., WTTX, the Times-Virginian, Top Treat and Quickee Food Sore, our bands, the Country Drifters, Burt Barbour's and Hal Chambers' bands. These bands played all afternoon for us, thanks fellows.

If I left out someone and did not thank you it is not intentional. We love all of you and without your help we couldn't have done it.

I thank God I live in Appomattox, because we have people who have concern and love for one another.

Sincerely,
Ronald C. Spiggle,
Appomattox Pledge
Co-ordinator
Jerry Lewis Muscular
Dystrophy Telethon, 1980

Venable named benefit chairman

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital has announced that Mrs. Minevera Venable has been appointed to serve as Chairman for the Fall 1980 "Wheels for Life" Bike-A-Thon Campaign in Pamplin.

William J. Kirwen, St. Jude's Director of Development, made the announcement and said more information will be forthcoming concerning the date, place, time, etc.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is the only research center dedicated exclusively to the study and conquest of catastrophic diseases of children. Its work, particularly in leukemia and other childhood cancers, has been internationally acclaimed and cited as a leading example for basic and clinical research.

No one has ever been charged for the benefits provided by St. Jude Hospital," Kirwen said. "And that includes the extremely expensive total medical care provided to children enrolled in its research studies."

Over two-thirds of this year's $19 million operating budget came from public support. Each year we rely on events like this to pay for the following year's costs.

Since Danny Thomas opened this institution in 1962, his dream of conquering the deadly diseases of childhood has continuously been brought closer to reality.

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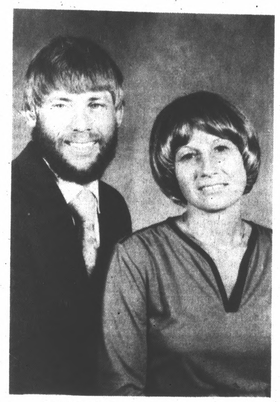


Larry Douglas Spraker and Yvonne Johnson
photo by Joe Vaughan

Yvonne Johnson to wed Larry D. Spraker

Mrs. Ruby Stanley of Appomattox wishes to announce the engagement of her daughter, Yvonne Johnson to Larry Douglas Spraker of Appomattox. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Henry Spraker of Wytheville, Va.

Yvonne is a graduate of Appomattox High School and is employed by Armstrong Furniture Co. of Appomattox.

Larry is a graduate of George Wythe High School of Wytheville and attended New River Community College. He is also employed by Armstrong Furniture Co. of Appomattox.

The wedding will take place Sept. 27 at Liberty Baptist Church at 2:00.

Shower honors Miss Layne

Miss Gail Layne of Appomattox was honored on Saturday evening, August 30, with a Lingerie Shower, given by Mrs. Ola Morris and Mrs. Lois Williams.

The Morris home was decorated using the bridal theme. A group of friends and relatives were in attendance and Miss Layne received many lovely gifts.

The wedding of Miss Layne to Thomas B. Wheeler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Wheeler will be an event of September 27, at Memorial United Methodist Church in Appomattox.

FIGHT CANCER WITH A CHECKUP AND A CHECK

Mrs. Larry Marshall Oxner

Miss McFadden is wed to Mr. Oxner

The marriage of Miss Vivian Lea McFadden to Larry Marshall Oxner took place Saturday evening at 7 o'clock in Maple Grove Baptist Church in Gladstone.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Harold McFadden of Gladstone. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis Clifton Oxner of Sylva, North Carolina.

The Rev. Dott Bryan, pastor of Maple Grove Baptist Church officiated at the double ring ceremony. The bride was escorted by her father and given in marriage by her parents.

The bride wore a lace on lace bouffant gown in pure white with a face framing Queen Anne neckline of chantilly lace, tipped in pearls. The soft lace bishop sleeve gently cuffed with a chantilly border lace. The front overskirt cut away and edged in chantilly border to reveal in ruffled lace underskirt. The chapel length train was row after row of chantilly lace ruffles and lace bordered organza ruffles.

Her veil, a juliet cap, was decorated with matching chantilly lace and attached bridal illusion.

She carried a bouquet of white roses, pink roses, and carnations.

Miss Deborah Ann McFadden, sister of the bride was maid-of-honor. She wore a floor length gown of soft rose. She carried a bouquet of silk roses and carnations with ribbon of white. The bridesmaids also wore floor length gowns matching that of the maid of honor. They carried bouquets of silk roses and carnations with rose colored ribbons.

Bridesmaids were, Miss Joan Robertson of Appomattox, cousin of the bride, Miss Lisa Clark of Appomattox, Miss Angie Mann of Evergreen, and Miss Cindy McCormick of Gladstone.

Mr. Raymond Harold McFadden, Jr., of Gladstone, served as best man. Ushers were Johnny Mc. Fadden of Gladstone, Mr. J. C. Oxner, Jr. of Amherst, Mr. Dale Hughes of Appomattox and Mr. E. F. McCormick of Gladstone.

Miss Cindy Peters, cousin of the bride was flower girl and Master Gregory Mc Cormick of Gladstone was ring-bearer.

The bride's mother wore a floor length gown of rose. The groom's mother wore a street length dress of mint green.

Miss Angie Peters provided the music for the occasion.

Miss Judy Zimmerman registered the guests and Miss Melinda Robertson honored each guest with a program.

After the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. McFadden entertained with a reception in the fellowship hall.

The bride is a graduate of Appomattox County High School and is employed by Dairy Queen in Appomattox. The bridegroom is a graduate of Sylva-Webster High School in Sylva, North Carolina and is employed by Meredith Burda Inc. in Lynchburg.

After a short wedding trip to Myrtle Beach the couple will make their home in Spout Springs.

Times - Virginian

Social News

Mrs. Gladys Carson of Farmville and Mrs. Agnes Wilkerson were guest of their aunt, Mrs. Irvin C. Moses on Saturday afternoon.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wilkerson took their aunt, Mrs. Irvin C. Moses to Prospect on Thursday to visit Miss Edith Prince and Mrs. Laura Townsend.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Robinson of Baltimore, Md., spent their two-week vacation in the home of Mrs. Bessie Robinson Aug. 1. Also visiting the home were Mr. Peter Flood and family from Maryland, his brother and family from New Jersey, his sisters and family from Baltimore, and also Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Ferguson from Baltimore, Mrs. Julia Wright and family from Baltimore.

* * *

James Vaughan is a patient in the Naval Hospital in Great Lakes, Ill. where he is stationed.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jamerson, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Vaughan, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Buchanan spent the week-end at Wintergreen.

* * *

Shafter Drinkard is a patient in Virginia Baptist Hospital where he is receiving treatment.

Reception honors bridal party

A wedding reception was given for the bridal party of Julia Meade Cover, her relatives and friends, in the fellowship hall of Bethel Church on Saturday, Aug. 23 at 7:30 p.m. by Mr. and Mrs. Sterling R. Gallier of Appomattox.

The marriage of Julia Meade Cover and Michael Sterling Gallier was an event of Aug. 24.

Birth announced

Pat and Mike Torrence, Micah and Wyatt happily announce the arrival of the newest member of their family, Brady Kipp. Born September 1 at Virginia Baptist Hospital, he weighed 9 lbs. 5 ozs. at birth.

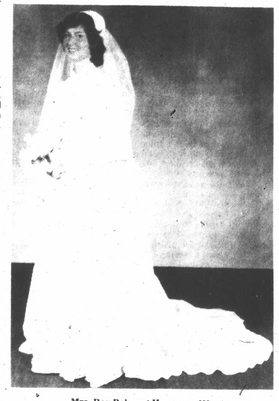
Maternal grandparents are Jane and Jimmy Tibbs of Spout Springs. Paternal granddparents are Lorraine and Elliott Torrence of Appomattox.

Miss Appomattox is off to pageant

Miss Nadine Bugg, "Miss Appomattox 1980", and her mother, Mrs. Faye Bugg, will depart Thursday from Roanoke to attend the "1980 Miss Americe" pageant in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Miss Holly Elizabeth Jereme, "Miss Virginia, 1980" will be one of the 50 contestants vying for the "Miss America" crown.

The pageant will be televised nationally on Saturday, September 6, 1980, 9:00 p.m. from Convention Hall in Atlantic City.



Mrs. Roy Belmont Hargrove, III

Miss Metcalf is wed to Mr. Hargrove

The marriage of Miss Cynthia Ann Metcalf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Shorter Metcalf, of Darlington Heights, and Roy Miss Belmont Hargrove, III, son of Dr. and Mrs. Roy Belmont Hargrove, Jr., of Farmville, took place on Saturday, August 9, 1980 at 11 o'clock a.m. at Spring Creek Baptist Church.

The Rev. George Harris officiated at the double ring ceremony.

Escorted by the father and given in marriage by her parents, the bride wore a gown of ivory chiffon scattered with delicate lace appliques. Her gown features a fluid skirt with chapel length train. A flattering V-shaped bib bodice and collar of imported alencon lace is adorned with seed pearls. The bishop sleeves of chiffon are cuffed with matching lace.

Mrs. Hargrove's veil is imported illusion flowing from a camelot cap circled with delicate lace and seed pearls. She carried a nosegay of white roses with daisies and miniature carnations and babies breath.

Miss Jennifer Irving, of Farmville, served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Miss Lisa Arrington, of Farmville; Miss Teresa Lair, of Lynchburg; Mrs. William D. Andrews, sister of the groom, of Farmville; Mrs. William B. Vassar, sister of the groom, of Richmond. Miss Annie Katherine Andrews and Miss Elizabeth Andrews, nieces of the groom, of Farmville, were flower girls.

Dr. Hargrove was his son's best man. Ushers were Jeffrey Metcalf, brother of the bride, of Darlington Heights; Kevin Letchford, of Lynchburg; William Daniel Andrews, of Farmville, and William Bradner Vassar, of Richmond.

Immediately following the ceremony, a reception was held on the lawn at the home of the bride's parents.

After a wedding trip to St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, the couple will reside in Williamsburg.

She is the granddaughter of Mrs. Opal Doss of Appomattox and the late Robert L. Doss.

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